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REICH FORCES REPEL ZHUKOV'S ATTEMPTS TO OCCUPY KUESTRIN

Marshal's Guns, However, Are Shelling Frankfurt; Furious Fighting in Stettin Area

Domei

BERLIN, February 4.—Marshal Zhukov's 1st White Russian army tanks continued a sharp battle for Kuestrin as the whole Oder front raged with fierce attacks and counterattacks, but latest reports said that all Soviet attempts to occupy Kuestrin were repelled and Marshal Zhukov's latest attempt to force a crossing of the Oder northwest of Kuestrin was repulsed in bloody fighting.

According to one Soviet prisoner captured during the Oder crossing attempt, 70 to 75 per cent of the Soviet force trying to forde the river were wiped out and that German river defenses in that sector were unmoved.

Farther south, however, one report said that the Soviets have established several bridgeheads across the Oder presumably on the upper Oder between Breslau and Glogau. One wedge is reported to be nearly 16 kilometers deep, but German counterattacks are pounding this penetration.

Zhukov's tanks concentrated their attacks mainly against the Frankfurt front and his guns are shelling the city of Frankfurt. Following bitter clashes in the area between the Oder and Warthe Zhukov's forces today advanced westward as far as Ziebingen, southeast of Frankfurt.

North of the Warthe, the Pomeranian front was further aggravated as Zhukov's forces—battered into Pyritz, 42 kilometers southeast of Stettin. Violent fighting was also reported at Arnswalde and Jastrow in the Stettin area.

Just north of Kuestrin, a Soviet thrust placed their spearhead just 60 kilometers from Berlin. The latest advance was made into Barwalde.

Meanwhile, the German garrison at Steinau on the west bank of the Oder northwest of Breslau still held out against strong attacks as well as the beseiged garrisons at Posen in Poland and Schneidemuhl in Pomerania.

A special announcement stated today that 308 Soviet tanks were destroyed by the German forces in 20 days between January 12 to February 2 in the sector between Lake Balaton and the Silesian area.

Transition Period Seen

Domei

BERLIN, February 4.—What seems to be a relaxation of the military situation in the east of Germany in reality is nothing but a period of transition which will be followed by the utmost concentration of forces for the decisive battle, writes Dr. Max Krull, DNB military correspondent. It is true that the situation in general has been stabilized and that the end of the first phase of fighting is indicated by conditions becoming somewhat more stationary.

Now the fighting area is divided into two large sectors:

(1) On the eastern bank of the Oder from Ratibor to Stettin. The battle for the river Oder is raging here on a 700-kilometer wide front. Along this line German defense positions have been established which for days have proved their stability and have successfully withstood the enemy onrush, eased by the weather break which prevented the Soviets from crossing the frozen Oder river.

The battle for small Soviet bridgeheads is, therefore, no matter of small importance. Northwest of Kuestrin the Oder has been reached by the Soviets at one point only. One of the main Soviet aims seems to be to reach Stettin and to control the entire eastern bank of the Oder. The focal point of the future fighting will therefore be the Oder sector between Kuestrin and Frankfort-on-the-Oder. The situation resembles that which the Soviet Union had to face in 1941 when the German troops after a number of brilliant victories were approaching Moscow.

There is no doubt that the German resistance in the area of Zilenzig and Franfurt has proved very strong in the past few days. Certain parts of the great German offensive reserves have apparently been sent to this area.

(2) The area south of the Baltic Sea between the Oder and Pregel. Here the Soviets seem to aim at Stettin, Gotenhafen, Danzig and Koenigsberg. So far the Soviets did not succeed in establishing naval bases at any point on the German coast or in occupying harbors. This is all the more difficult for them since the tenacity of the German Courland front prevents them from occupying the harbors of Libau and Windau. The fighting at Schneiddemuehl, Deutsch-Krone, Jastrov, Graudenz, Marienburg and Elbing may thus be regarded as fighting in the forefield of the German coast. Though the enemy has been fairly successful in East Prussia, he did not succeed in finally cutting the strip of land between Koenigsberg and Danzig. North of Koenigsberg the enemy pressure somewhat slackened. At Freidland and Kreuzberg, too, the German resistance is still unbroken.

In the west, the Americans at Monschau and St. Vith are approaching the German Westwall step by step. They are engaged in heavy fighting in the forefield of the German fortifications. The French are trying to derive the greatest possible profit from their penetration north of Kolmar and to reach at least the narrow strip on the left bank of the Rhine. The German command is counteracting this double pressure with as few means as possible in order to save the main power of its counter blow for the east.

Large U.S. Oil Tanker Sunk in Arabian Sea: Hit by 3 Torpedoes

Domei

LISBON, February 4.—The U.S. War Shipping Administration announced tonight that an enemy submarine sank the large Standard Oil tanker H.D. Collier in the Arabian Sea with a loss of 33 men, according to a Washington dispatch. The tanker was reported transporting over 100,000 barrels of high octane gasoline when it was struck by three torpedoes. The enemy submarine then surfaced and started shelling the tanker as the life-boats were being launched. The life-boat carrying Captain Joseph Fox was set ablaze killing everyone aboard. It is reported that the S.S. Empire picked up the remaining 14 survivors several days later.

'BIG THREE' SAID STUDYING PEACE TERMS FOR REICH

Unconfirmed Reports Declare Meeting Held Somewhere In Southern Russia

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 4.—President Franklin Roosevelt, Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Premier Josef Stalin are believed to be studying armistice terms for Germany at the "Big Three" conference, according to a Washington report.

There are numerous signs that the long awaited meeting has finally begun with the approval of terms for the defeat of the Reich as the main item on the agenda.

Unconfirmed reports said that the meeting is taking place somewhere in southern Soviet Union.

Comments on Meeting

Domei

BERLIN, February 3.—Information is on hand in the German Foreign Office that at the coming meeting of Premier Josef Stalin, President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill, a political action is to be carried out similar to the one started by the former American President Woodrow Wilson with his 14 points in 1918.

This time, it is stressed in Berlin it is intended to achieve the same aim by modifying the demand for unconditional surrender. This had been agreed upon after it had been ascertained that the German command and the German people were determined to offer extreme resistance and after it had been recognized that Germany could not be conquered either from the west or from the east.

The spokesman of the Foreign Office, Dr. Paul Schmidt, calling this planned political manifesto a "Wilson farce," declared, that if it were actually issued, it would prove a political failure since the German people know too well the statements of men like Lord Vansittard of the British Foreign Office, Churchill, Roosevelt and Henry Morgenthau, U.S. Secretary of the Treasury. Moreover, the German people had not forgotten 1918, Dr. Schmidt said adding that the old recipe that the war was directed solely against the German leaders had had its effect once and would not have it again.

GERMANS MAINTAINING INITIATIVE IN THE ALSACE

American Preparations Indicate Renewal of Heavy Fighting In Aachen Area

Domei

BERLIN, February 4.—Fighting in the most active Alsatian area was marked yesterday by Franco-American attempts to hem in further the German bridgehead near Colmar which was evacuated. The Americans were checked close to the southern edge of the city and the French forces were checked in the area north of Mulhouse while north of Neubresach enemy reserves were unable to deploy for action due to incessant German barrage fire. Two French regiments which attacked in this area south of Enshelm sustained such heavy losses that they abandoned the battle.

In lower Alsace, German troops maintained the initiative everywhere and attacks launched by units of the American 7th army between Hagenau and the Rhine developed only into local fighting.

Also in the Hagenau area where bitter fighting has been going on for weeks, the initiative was clearly with the Germans. The northern part of the town was cleared off by the Germans who also frustrated several American attempts to cross the Moder River. German successes continued also east of Bischweller where advanced enemy troops were pressed back and prisoners taken.

In the northern sector of the Western Front, a comparative calm prevailed, but in the central sector, the American 1st and 3rd armies attempted to break into the forefield of the German west wall fortifications and extremely hard and fluctuating fighting developed in the bunker lines of the northern and southern frontier districts of Eifel. American gains were insignificant and fighting at the moment is characterized by powerful German counterattacks to iron out local breaches.

In the Aachen area meanwhile, American preparations for an offensive have been stepped up considerably during the past few days and a renewal of large-scale fighting is expected in this sector.

German military quarters believe that the Americans will presumably have at their disposal at least 20 large formations including reserve troops and nine tank divisions. Apparently deployment movements have not yet been concluded, but it is believed that a large-scale attack is imminent especially in view of the Soviet offensive in the east.

BRITAIN FOLLOWS U.S. STEP

Sends Representative to Bring Economic Pressure on Swiss

Domei

ZURICH, February 4.—Following the dispatch of Lauchlin Currie, economic adviser to the U.S. Government, as President Roosevelt's special envoy to Switzerland, the British Government also seems to have sent a special economic representative to that country. The purpose of the dispatch of the special economic envoys is to hinder Swiss trade with Germany.

Berne dispatches of February 4 quote Swiss Government quarters as stating that an economic parley will be held among representatives of the United States, Britain and Switzerland sometime during the week at Berne. It is opined that pressure will be applied on Switzerland for the stoppage of shipments of not only military supplies but for the cessation of all trade with Germany.

Ohio Shortens Work Days

Domei

LISBON, February 4.—The Governor of Ohio has ordered a general introduction of a five-day work today to save fuel supplies in view of the unprecedented cold wave and snow storm that has swept the northeastern states, according to a dispatch from Columbus, Ohio. The announcement added that the important armament works will, however, not be affected by this regulation.

Moscow Patriarch Named

Domei

MOSCOW, February 2.—Metropolitan Alexei of Leningrad was unanimously elected Patriarch of Moscow and all Russia at a meeting of the General Council of the Russian Orthodox Church in Moscow's Sokolniki Cathedral. He succeeds the late Patriarch Sergius, who died in May 1944.

Hit by Heavy Losses, U.S. Airmen Requested To Wait for Relief After Forced Landings

In view of the tremendous personnel losses being sustained by the American air forces in their attacks against the Japanese mainland, the United States has been contriving to minimize its personnel loss by advising its airmen to wait for the arrival of relief whenever compelled to make a forced landing, according to Domei. In this connection, it is further reported that each airman is provided with a guide-book in which various suggestions are written on foodstuffs available on lonely islands.

The contents of the guide-book are as follows:

"A pint of water is sufficient for one person a day. However, when no water is available, drink blood taken from seabirds or tortoises. When no contact is possible with your comrades and there is possibility of being found by the enemy, try to land on an uninhabited island and wait for relief.

"Once you land on an uninhabited island, catch fish for your food. The kind of fish which has no scales or which puffs itself up or whose mouth resembles a bird's beak and its bones are shaped like a box is poisonous, so don't eat it. You can usually find shells in sand or among rocks. It is safe to eat them raw. You can find octopuses hidden during daylight among rocks and reefs, so kill them with your knives. When dark, use your flashlights and catch octopuses. They are tasty, raw, or cooked. Whenever you eat any animals which are unfamiliar, try a bit first and if you feel all right after eight hours, you can eat more."

Such thorough-going advices are written in the guide-book, side by side with an ardent request to wait till they are picked up by their comrades.

MEETING BETWEEN EAM, GOVERNMENT HITS SNAG

Disagreement Over Amnesty Postpones Talks; More Greek Rebels Sentenced

Domei

LISBON, February 4.—The conference between the delegates of the EAM and the representatives of the Greek Government was opened on Friday, but due to disagreements the meeting scheduled for Saturday was postponed and the resumption of the talks scheduled for Sunday afternoon failed to take place, according to reports from Athens.

Premier General Nicholas Plastira's Greek Government circles stated today after the second postponement that a "pause is necessary for the examination of the proposals made by both sides."

Disagreement appears to have arisen between the EAM and Government delegations in yesterday's peace talks over the question of amnesty. EAM delegates, it is stated, agreed to the disarmament of the ELAS, but criticized the Government's suggestions for the punishment in criminal cases.

The head of the EAM delegation, Siantos, said, "We declare categorically and emphatically that we accept demilitarization of the Greek popular liberation army." Reports have it, though, the Greek Government is expected to meet on Monday.

Meanwhile, it is learned that three ELAS members were charged with high treason and murder and sentenced to death today by the military court. Thus far, out of the six ELAS members who have been tried, five have been condemned to death and one 18-year-old boy sentenced to ten years imprisonment. Five army officers constituted the court.

Misery Rife in Greece

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 4.—Although conditions in Athens have improved somewhat, the state of misery in the rest of Greece remains as before, Kenneth Matthews, London's BBC correspondent, reported from Athens today. He stated that unemployment has spread further, the population is starving and children are seen running about in rags. He declared that the Red Cross can help little owing to transportation difficulties.

Finns Paying Debt To U.S.

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 2.—The United States Government has finally permitted Finland to pay its December instalment on its First World War debt, the payment amounting to little over $235,000, according to a Washington report. The U.S. Department of Treasury at the same time has authorized the resumption of interest payment to American holders of Finnish Government bonds. Both the U.S. Government and American bondholders will get their money out of Finnish funds now frozen in the United States.

France Discusses Syria

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, February 2.—The new development that has arisen in Syria and which has been received from the French High Command in Beirut, was the main topic discussed at today's meeting of the French Provisional Government Cabinet, according to a Paris report. An official comment on the outcome of the Cabinet meeting stated: "In the Levant, France considers her part so indispensable for the maintenance of order that she desires to maintain her authority."

U.S. SENATE APPROVES LENDING AGENCIES BILL

At Same Time Moves to Postpone Consideration of Wallace Issue to March 1

Domei

LISBON, February 2.—The first major step toward reviving the post of Federal Loan Administrator was accomplished today when the Senate voted 74 to 12 to pass the George bill, which separates the lending agencies from the Department of Commerce, according to a Washington report. Early House approval was very likely and the President informed the Senate yesterday that he had approved the bill.

Although opponents of former Vice President Henry Wallace's nomination as Secretary of Commerce declared that they would fight a bloc confirmation, outright pro-Wallace elements expressed doubt as to whether the opposition could again muster an oppositional vote which they almost achieved yesterday and said that Wallace's chances were exceedingly encouraging.

After the pro-Wallace faction averted an immediate vote on the nomination by the skin of their teeth, the Senate passed the George bill and adopted Democratic Leader Senator Alben Barkley's motion to postpone the nomination vote until March 1, thus allowing the Wallace supporters throughout the nation to muster their forces. Fred Vinson, Economic Stabilization Director, Henry Kaiser, shipbuilder, and Edwin Pauley, Democratic National Committee treasurer, were being speculated prominently for the coming Loan Administrator post.

Nomination Put Off

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 2.—Clearly revealing the Senate's opposition to the control of the huge government lending agency of the Commerce Department by former Vice President Henry Wallace, was the swift action of the Senate on Thursday by which it voted 43 to 41 to delay until March the consideration of Wallace's nomination as Secretary of Commeroe. On the heels of this action of pigeon-holing Wallace's confirmation, the Senate then quickly approved by a vote of 74 to 12 the George bill which is designed to strip the Commerce Secretary of his huge federal lending powers.

The delay in the consideration of Wallace's name as Secretary of Commerce will give the House of Representatives time to act on the George bill before Wallace's name comes to a vote.

Friends of Wallace say that the Associated Press has conceded that unless the Commerce post is stripped of its lending powers, Wallace cannot be confirmed for the job. This latest development is clear evidence that the Senate is opposed to the former Vice President's controlling the lending agency.

Urges World Farming Body

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 4.—A world agricultural organization should be established as it would help all member nations to obtain more and better food supply, declared Claude Wickard, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, on February 2, according to a Washington dispatch. Wickard stated that two out of three people in the world are farmers but few nations can produce enough for all of their own need. He predicted foreign Government trade control in the postwar world and added that efforts should be made to stabilize world agricultural prices.

6 B-29'S DOWNED, 30 HIT IN SUNDAY RAID ON KOBE

15 Bombers Attempt to Make Attack on Nagoya But Fail To Reach Objective

Counterattacking the Mariana-based U.S. air formations consisting of about 100 B-29 bombers that attacked Kobe City on Sunday, Japanese Anti-Air Raid Units in cooperation with AA batteries shot down six planes and those which are believed to have been damaged total over 30. In this intercepting operation, three Japanese planes self-blasted or have not yet returned.

Divided into 10 echelon formations, the main strength of the B-29 bomber force aggregating about 85 planes, attacked Kobe City between 3 and 3:45 p.m. principally aiming to strike the harbor facilities where they dropped explosives and incendiaries which caused fires at several places.

A part of the enemy air formations, or about 15 planes, tried to penetrate the skies over Nagoya after passing over Cape Shionomisaki on the same afternoon, but as they failed to reach their objective, they flew over Matsuzaka and its vicinity in Miye Prefecture as well as Kishiwada City. Some explosive and incendiary bombs were dropped but practically no damage was caused except for some fires which broke out at a part of Matsuzaka City.

2 B-29's Again Raid Kobe

One Mariana-based B-29 bomber attempted to raid Japan Proper at 9:30 p.m. on Sunday but fled before entering the skies over the mainland. Another B-29 coming from the direction of the east coast of Shikoku appeared over Kobe shortly after midnight the same day and dropped some small bombs. Slight damage was caused to ground facilities. The third raider appeared over the same city at 4:30 a.m. the following morning. The raider dropped a few explosives before fleeing.

1 B-29 Over W. Chosen

One B-29 entered western Chosen from the vicinity of Shingishu at about 10 a.m. on Monday and passing over the Keijo area fled westward from the vicinity of Mokpo at about 11:30 a.m. the Chosen Army announced at 1 p.m. on the same day.

BERLIN BUILDINGS DAMAGED

Cathedral, Former Imperial Palace, City Hall Hit by Raiders

Domei

BERLIN, February 4.—Many historical and monumental buildings of the German capital were damaged during Saturday's terror raid on Berlin and casualties and damage were caused also by simultaneous raids carried out by both American and British raiders in other parts of Germany yesterday and last night.

In Berlin, the city's famous cathedral, the former Imperial Palace and the State Opera Building were hit and damaged severely. The City Hall also suffered damage.

Simultaneously, part of the American bomber formation hit the city of Magdeburg in air attacks which competent German quarters described as purely terror raids. Most of the bombs were dropped in the residential quarters causing considerable damage to buildings and casualties among the civilian population.

Late the same day, British bombers carried out raids on the residential section of Wiesbaden, Essen and Oberhausen. Osnabrueck was also hit during the night.

IRELAND, U.S. SIGN AIR PACT

New Agreement Becomes Effective On February 15

Domei

LISBON, February 4.—The State Department in Washington today announced the conclusion of an air transport agreement with Ireland to become effective on February 15, according to a Washington dispatch.

On the strength of this agreement, American aviation companies are entitled to use Irish territory for landings and it is said that the agreement follows closely that concluded with Iceland on January 27 and the agreements in force between the United States and Spain and Denmark.

The agreement provides authorized American airlines to obtain rights of transit and non-traffic in Irish territory plus the right of commercial entry for international traffic at Shannon airport on the routes from the United States "to Ireland and countries beyond." Reciprocal rights will be granted to authorized Irish airlines at United States airports.

Nanyung Occupation Imminent As Japanese Take Chihing on Feb. 2

By O. OKUBO

Of the Military Press Corps

CANTON - HANKOW FRONT, February 4.—The southward advancing Japanese Unit which has reduced Suichwan, the most important of the group of American airfields in the Suichwan-Kanchow area, continues making a forced march in the mire. The vanguard of the unit has already advanced to a point in the immediate neighborhood of Kanchow, to the consternation of the enemy which is defending the place. Another Japanese Unit, which in concerting action with the southward advancing unit, has been pushing southward from Shackwan, occupied Chihing on the evening of February 2 and has since been threatening Nanyung. A section of the unit has reached the outskirt of Nanyung, whose fall is now considered a matter of time.

NEW WAR GOVERNMENT INAUGURATED IN BURMA

Will Strengthen Country's Structure; Premier Discloses 4-Point Plans

Domei

RANGOON, February 2.—The new Mahabama war Government which was formed today replacing the old Burmese Government, officially announced its intention of mobilizing entire Burma and place the country on a complete war footing.

The announcement said, "The formation of the new war Government calls for taking up a parallel national task, defending the nation's independence and for a more vigorous revision and prosecution of social political, economic and military policies."

The inauguration of the new Government also saw changes in four Cabinet posts it was added.

Following the formation of the new war Government Dr. Ba Maw, Head of the State and, concurrently Prime Minister, at a conference disclosed that the new Mahabama war Cabinet at its first meeting today had decided to issue in the near future firstly, government currency; secondly, to create a supreme defense council; thirdly, to appoint war commissioners in strategic areas in Burma and fourthly, to build country-wide war information structures in vital areas.

The Prime Minister said the issuing of Burmese Government currency is very important in the stabilization of the economic life of the nation. The Supreme Council will carry out with full power all measures to win the war, he added.

The appointment of war commissioners will with full authority see duty in three strategic areas, namely, Mandalay, Bassein and Shan States, and they will replace the regional commissioners. As to the creation of war information structures they will appear in all vital areas and will have publicity offices to conduct permanent activities. These publicity offices will not only be a means to spreading news but will also be liaison units between the Japanese Forces and the Burmese Government, he said.

In a statement issued upon the formation of the new government, the Mahabama war Government declared that in order to resist the aggressor to the utmost the whole of the Mahabama nation is being reorganized on a war footing beginning with the Government.

Members of the new Government both individually and collectively give their solemn pledge to the nation, firstly, "that we will be a national Government for service to the nation as a whole; secondly, that we dedicate ourselves unconditionally to the first national task of defending the nation's independence against the Anglo-American enemies in unity with Japan and other East Asiatic nations and thirdly, that we will take up parallel national task in cooperation with Japan of substantiating the nation's independence all round so that its benefits will reach every Mahabama home political, social and economically in its fullest measure."

The statement exhorted the people to cooperate with the new Government for the achievement of the above aims.

Meanwhile, firm determination to carry out their duties through this vital period was expressed by the entire members of the newly organized Burmese Cabinet before a huge mass rally held yesterday at the Shwe Dagon Pagoda.

All the Ministers of State including Prime Minister Dr. Ba Maw expressed their firm will to fight and sacrifice their all until the ultimate goal is achieved. The huge crowd also vowed that every Burmese will devote his life toward the preservation of the nation's integrity.

U.S. TROOPS REACH MANILA OUTSKIRTS; PARATROOPS ACTIVE

Air-Borne Forces Descend at Tagaytay, 55 Kilometers South of P.I. Capital

By Courtesy of the Press Section

Aiming at the reduction of Manila, the U.S. invasion forces, about seven or eight divisions strong that landed in the Lingayen Bay area, are continuing to push their forward drive on various fronts despite the losses they are suffering in face of severe Japanese counterattacks.

While about two enemy divisions advanced southward to the Clark sector where they are being checked by the Japanese, another two divisions landed in the Subic Bay area on January 30, and another division landed on Nasugbu, south of the same bay, on January 31. In a movement, these forces started a drive toward Manila but are now being violently counterattacked.

Meanwhile, enemy air-borne units, numbering about one regiment, descended by parachutes at Tagaytay, about 55 kilometers south of Manila on February 3, and furious fighting is now raging. On the other hand, with 10-odd tanks in the vanguard, a part of the southward advancing U.S. forces in the Luzon Plain reached the outskirts in the northern part of Manila on the night of February 3.

Holding all the vital positions on various firing lines on the Luzon Plain, the Japanese are continuing to engage in furious battles in which they are inflicting heavy blows upon the enemy.

The Americans are now trying to capture Manila mainly for its propaganda value, but judging from the military viewpoint the fall of Manila would not be of any value strategically to the enemy. The Imperial Forces in high fighting spirit are now ready to engage in the grand-scale operations in the Luzon Plain which are now about to commence.

The Americans are also exerting every effort to strengthen the air forces based at Lingayen, San Fabian, Dagupan, and Manaoag where about 200 to 300 planes have been massed. The enemy has also assembled 700 to 800 planes in Leyte and Mindoro islands.

Enemy Raids Cavite

Domei

PHILIPPINE BASE, February 5.—Cavite was raided by an aggregate of 140 medium and small-sized enemy planes in daytime on February 1 and by about 170 similar planes during daylight of February 2.

Raiders Over Yiojima

Domei

CENTRAL PACIFIC BASE, February 5.—Japanese Forces on the spot shot down or damaged five of the 25 enemy planes, comprising B-24's and P-38's, that raided Yiojima on the forenoon of February 3.

About a dozen enemy F4U and TBF planes raided Yap Island during daytime of the same day.

Renames P.I. Naval Battle

Domei

LISBON, February 4.—The naval operation off the Philippines which took place in October last year and which hitherto has been called the Second Naval Battle of the Philippines is, to be hereafter called the Naval Battle of the Gulf of Leyte, the U.S. Navy Department announced today, according to a Washington dispatch.

Park Given Asia Post

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 4.—The British Air Ministry announced today that Air Marshal Sir Keith Park has been appointed Air Commander in Chief in Southeast Asia in place of Air Chief Marshal Sir Trafford Leigh-Mallory who has been reported killed in a plane accident while on his way to India to assume his post, according to a London dispatch. The announcement added that Air Vice Marshal C. E. Hamedi has been selected as Air Commander in Chief of the West Asia command succeeding Park. Hamedi has assumed acting rank of Air Marshal on taking up the appointment.

LIN'S NEW BOOK ON CHINA GIVES FALSE IMPRESSION

Not a Thorough and Judicial Study of His Country, Says Atkinson

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 4.—The book "Vigil of a Nation" by Lin Yu-tang, Chinese philosopher, falls far short of being a thorough and judicial study of contemporary China, declared Brooks Atkinson, former Chungking correspondent of the New York Times, in his review of Dr. Lin's book which appeared in the book review section of his paper. The book which is in part a travelogue and in part a political argument, is a report of what Lin saw while he was in China during part of 1943 and 1944 and the impressions he received during that period.

Pointing to the pride with which Lin expresses the achievements of the Chinese war efforts, Atkinson wrote:

"While China's war making and national policies are being criticized frequently in America, Dr. Lin is wise to remind Americans that many modern and energetic Chinese are doing extraordinary things. China has survived because many Chinese have an indomitable spirit, and what American technicians describe as the 'know how.' Although the Chinese 'know how' is more primitive than its American counterpart, it works some minor miracles in China. Since the Chinese people have so much personal character it must be pleasant to be able to write about them apart from their politics, for politics in China like politics in every nation, affects the lives of the people.

Politics Important

"Politics have not only meant the prosecution of the war and the economic conditions of living but the intellectual prosperity of the nation as well. What goes on in the government and what does not go on in the government affects the intellectual vitality that in turn develops the thought and spiritual progress of the people. Dr. Lin's political attitudes do not go very deep. On the one hand, he vigorously defends the current regime and denounces criticisms of it as 'Communist propaganda.' On the other hand, he reports and accepts a good many of the same criticisms.

"He deplores the shocking treatment of soldiers in China. He describes Chinese soldiers as underfed, under-clothed and poorly-equipped. Contrary to the official point of view he thinks that the people of China are ready for democracy now. The government he says, has prepared itself and not the people for democracy. Dr. Lin thinks that China should have a bill of rights. He believes the people of China are unprepared for democracy only as long as the bill of rights is not in force. He believes that freedom of the press should be permitted now, for he realizes that no government can be kept orderly and efficient unless the people have the right to criticize their leaders. He says that insofar as the Kuomintang has failed to encourage liberty of criticism through freedom of the press, it is moving in the wrong direction."

Next declaring that Lin's most serious criticism is his charge that the Kuomintang has not taken an interest in the lives of the common people of China, Atkinson quoted the following paragraph from Lin's book:

"When people speak of the reactionary tendency of the Kuomintang, they mean that they have failed to stress the rights of the peasant laborers and the common people. Nowhere in Kuomintang China have I seen or heard the common people of China played up as the all-important individuals whose happiness is the final state. Nowhere have I seen the common people made to feel that they are important. Yet until the people of China are made to feel that the middle people are the important people, China will fail in the final analysis to quality for the title of democracy."

Communists Denounced

Next, in connection with Lin's discussion of relations between the Kuomintang and the Chinese Communists, Atkinson wrote:

"All through the book Dr. Lin denounces the Chinese Communists saying that they do nothing toward solving China's basic problem of tranquil relations. If the problem is to be solved without a civil war, it will require people in both the Communist and Kuomintang camps to negotiate without prejudice."

Pointing to the fact that most people in America believe that China has no choice of government except between the present Kuomintang and the Communists, Atkinson emphasized that most liberals in China do not want a Communist government although they are dissatisfied with the present regime. They would like a more progressive national government and although the Communists are making steady progress with their program based on peasant support, their current demands on the national government are for recognition of a legal party and for democratic freedom. Whatever the Communist Party may hope for in the future, it does not express and probably does not want to assume national leadership now. According to Lin, the Communists do not fight the Japanese but only the national government army.

Atkinson next states his impression of the aims of the Chinese Communists, saying:

"The Communist Party of China is Marxism in ideology. But its present program which is designed to suit China's pressing needs is a modern one that benefits the peasants. The Communists know that the future strength of their party must come from peasant support. Lin describes the situation well when he says the Communists are democratic only in the following sense:

"First, they have always theoretically stood for the right of the peasants and laborers; second, they are ahead of Chungking in organizing people for self-government; third, they have workers' unions and peasants' unions and women's unions; and fourth, they have stood with the peasants against the landlords and have reduced the interests on loans."

Peasants Given Chance

In conclusion Atkinson gives due credit to the Chinese Communists for contributing something worthwhile to China, by saying:

"Since the Communists are offering the peasants a present and a future they are contributing something positive and progressive to China today. It will be a miracle if the Chinese Communists are absorbed into China's political life without a definite civil war. The distrusts on both sides go to the roots of political thinking. But it will also be a triumph for modern China if the Kuomintang and the Communists could work out a program for a counteroffensive against Japan and civil reform on a democratic basis.

"Repeating the tiresome quibbles of either party line blocks the political progress of China. The whole of China needs at least a part of what the Chinese Communists are doing."

REICH ARMY STEMMING FLOOD OF BOLSHEVISM

If Soviet Offensive Succeeds, Entire Humanity Will Be Menaced, Says Goebbels

Domei

BERLIN, January 28.—"The large-scale Soviet offensive again brings to the fore the immense danger a successful Soviet onslaught would be not only to Central Europe but, indirectly, to the Western Powers as well", writes Dr. Joseph Goebbels, Reich Minister of Propaganda and National Enlightenment, in his contribution to Das Reich. Dr Goebbels declared:

"If one were to suppose for the sake of argument that the Germans were unable to counteract this mammoth thrust or, at least, to intercept it, the result of such a lack of material power would become intensely clear. This would, of course, not alone affect the Reich alone but the whole of Europe, in fact all of mankind. Germany today is fighting a world war in the true sense of the word. The fate of all civilized nations hinges directly or indirectly on how the struggle will end.

"The general situation today is that the German nation, deserted by almost all its allies in Europe, is standing on a lone post but, in defending its own life, is protecting the life of the whole civilized world. Whether the world is willing to realize this or not, is immaterial.

"The development in the east has assumed a dramatic character. The Soviets have brought into action masses of men and material surpassing all imagination. What would happen if the German divisions in the east were suddenly to disappear and the Kremlin were to remember its old aim of bolshevizing Europe as the first step to the bolshevization of the world, and Premier Stalin were then to throw perhaps the Atlantic Charter at the feet of Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt?

"Our western enemies take these, our prophecies, as hallucinations. But, we are stating facts, quietly but inexorably and, above all, regardless of all doubts raised in the world. It is perfectly clear to us that our only salvation lies in our own strength and, although this strength today is again subjected to the severest test, we are nevertheless firmly convinced that we shall survive this test just as we have survived so many before.

"We have nothing to fear, not even a sentence passed by fate. For we are convinced that this sentence will be just and, this being so, that it is bound to be in our favor. Why should we ask our enemies for an understanding? They cannot vanquish us for we have everything on our side which makes life worth living.

"The flood from the east will be broken even if our enemies in the west are tying our hands at the moment when we, not only for our own salvation but for the salvation of the entire cultured world, are about to build the dams against the wild current from the steppe. Our fathers, brothers and sons are fighting, dying and bleeding for the Reich. Salvation can come from Germany alone. It will be as great and as full of blessing as the wounds are painful which fate is inflicting on us today."

YANKS, BRITISH SUSPECT SOVIET UNION'S WAR AIM

Opinion Grows That Stalin Has His Own Special Plan For 'Germany's Disposal'

By Arrangement With the Asahi

ZURICH, February 3.—The central topic to be discussed at the "Big Three" conference is the question how to dispose of Germany. However, while the Soviet Union is keeping absolutely silent, Britain and the United States are openly propagandizing their attitude respecting this issue.

According to a London report to the Basler Nachrichten, London commentators are recognizing that the tendency of the British Government to force very strong peace terms on Germany is becoming very evident. London newspapers are supporting the recent address of Prime Minister Churchill insisting upon the unconditional surrender of Germany. Probably in concord with the strong British attitude against Germany President Roosevelt recently declared that the United States has prepared a nine-point proposal revealing concretely the independent diplomatic policy of the United States toward the Soviet Union. It is reported that a glance at the nine items reveals the American attitude toward the Lublin regime and Yugoslavia, the sovereignty of which is under Soviet control, and also to Greece and Italy, the sovereignty of which is in the hands of the United States. Furthermore, regarding the Polish question, the United States is expected to make a very firm and unconciliatory proposal.

Observations made by various quarters agree that Roosevelt and Churchill will unite politically in meeting the Soviet leader at the coming conference, and the recent sudden change of the British attitude toward the disposal of Germany may be regarded as one of the joint British-American preparations for the conference.

It is of much interest to note the motive prompting Britain to insist upon the unconditional surrender of Germany. As was revealed by the discussion at the House of Commons recently there has arisen among the British public an opinion that the formula of the unconditional surrender of Germany must be re-examined. The reason for this is because it is feared that the Kremlin might be planning its own independent policy for the disposal of Germany, regardless of Britain and America, in view of the unexpected rapid progress of the Red Army's offensive.

That is to say, the British and American leaders are beginning to suspect that while they are eager to defeat Germany militarily, the Soviets has already began political offensive for the disposal of Germany in parallel with a militaristic advance.

The Army and Navy Journal, an American magazine, in its recent issue said that the Soviet Union is planning to establish a Soviet-conceived Germany regime at Koenigsburg, and is preparing to organize a police force for Germany that will be of a greater strength than the present German Army. This article has caused quite a sensation in the United States, and the "Free German Committee" planned by the Soviets is gradually becoming a central topic of discussion.

There is no reliable information as to the question how the Soviets would utilize the Free German Committee, but according to information to hand it seems that the Soviet Union is intending to use it as an ideal weapon against the United States and Britain.

Selling 'Fortune Debentures'

The third "Fortune Debentures," amounting to ¥50,000,000, will be placed on sale for a period of 20 days beginning March 13 to April 5. The conditions will be the same as for the previous one with the drawing of numbers on May 5 and the payment of the prizes starting from June 5. The third issue will be the last of "Fortune Debentures" to be put on sale. Hereafter in the place of these debentures, "Victory Lotteries" will make their appearance."

Soviets, Finns Sign Trade Pact

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, February 2.—A trade agreement becoming effective immediately has been signed between the Soviet Union and Finland, according to a Moscow report. The Soviet Union will export grain and sweets to Finland in exchange for minerals and ship repair services at Finnish dockyards, the exchange to be made during the period from now to June 1.

1st Tokyo Raid by B-29's Vividly Described—Yank Says He Was Anxious to Return to Base

Domei

MADRID, February 1.—An eyewitness account of the first bombing of Tokyo by a formation of Mariana-based B-29's was given in an article entitled, "A Visit to Tokyo," which appeared in the January 7 issue of Yank, a special magazine for the American officers and men overseas.

The account in gist follows:

"In order to make our first visit to Tokyo after the bombing attack carried out by a formation led by Lieutenant General James Doolittle, we boarded the commander's plane which was to be accompanied by several scores of others based at the Marianas. Our mission was to bomb the industrial centers in Tokyo.

"After we had cruised for some hours at an altitude of 1,500 meters, the Major aboard the commander's plane decided to go up higher. When the Major fired his pistol signalling to the crews manning the other bomber planes to gain altitude, all the machines immediately began to fly higher.

"The order to put on combat uniforms, iron caps and oxygen masks was issued, while a signal prohibiting the men to smoke was given.

"Experimental firing started. The pilot, engineer and gunner were discussing the right length of time to keep the bombing rack open. While cruising under the clouds, we were often hit by squalls, and after each squall, we saw a beautiful rainbow in the skies.

"As we speedily approached the Japanese mainland, we adjusted our altitude. In no time, the summit of Mt. Fuji appeared over the banks of clouds, and we knew exactly which direction we were heading for. The Japanese mainland came faintly into sight after we had flown for 20 minutes more. Music broadcast from Tokyo could be heard. When we reached the skies over Japan Proper, the musical program was suddenly replaced by an excited announcement.

"Just as we reached the air over Mt. Fuji, one Japanese fighter plane appeared before our eyes. The Japanese machine was about to dash into our formation, but it swept past us. Passing over Mt. Fuji, we turned right and headed straight for Tokyo. Gradually fields and villages came into sight. The first formation reached the skies over Tokyo three minutes ahead of the others and began dropping bombs. As we zoomed over Tokyo, we saw lines of houses. In the skies over the industrial centers, all the planes gathered round the commander's machine.

"The comrade planes would drop their bombs simultaneously with us. We were searching for breaks in the clouds. Unless we found the breaks quickly we would have to drop our bombs blindly. Presently we espied a cluster of buildings south of Tokyo's industrial district. Orders were issued to unload the bombs. The missiles plummeted downward with a hissing hum. In 45 seconds they struck the ground. Clouds of smoke covered the ground and we could see nothing.

"We circled once and came back over Tokyo to ascertain the results of our bombings. This time the Japanese fighters were almost right upon us. One formation of several planes seemed about ready to fire at us, but the next instant they were lost in the clouds. Two fighters attempted to rise above us but did not succeed in their attempt. Several others tried to forge ahead and strike us from the front. Only one fighter came within the range of fire for the rear gunner and as for the rest they hardly got to the proximity of exchanging shots.

"The AA shots exploded in feathery puffs at fixed intervals, but most of them swerved to the west of our formation. By the time we reached the skies over Tokyo Bay, the clouds had drifted away from the line of our vision. Now that our bombs had been unloaded, we were anxious to get back. We headed for the Saipan base.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

February 4

In Hungary the enemy supported by numerous tanks tried to push into our front between Lake Balaton and Lake Velencze and in the course of a counter-attack the enemy was forced into the defense and lost 26 tanks. In Budapest, our garrison is defending tenaciously the castle and parts of the city south and southwest of it against a numerically far superior enemy.

Between the western Beskides and the upper Oder, violent Soviet attacks failed. At the front between Ratibor and Oderbruch, all enemy attempts to enlarge his bridgeheads were frustrated, several being reduced by our counterattacks while near Glogau, 20 enemy tanks were destroyed, most of them by close range weapons. Soviet attacks against our positions southeast of Frankfort-on-the-Oder and in front of Kuestrin remained unsuccessful.

The Schneidemuehl and Posen garrisons were also yesterday engaged in bitter defense fighting while violent fighting also ensued on the Pommeranian front near Pyritz, Arnswalde and northeast of Jastrov. The Thorn garrison according to orders fought its way through to its own lines. West of Schwetz our tanks and grenadiers pierced the enemy flanks deeply inflicting heavy losses on him while the defenders of Marienburg and of the city of Elbing warded off numerous Soviet attacks.

At the southern front of East Prussia the enemy launched an attack between Wormditt and Bartenstein and in heavy fighting our divisions prevented the enemy from achieving the planned break-through. Northwest of Koenigsberg the enemy gained ground in the direction of Danzig Bay and our forces have started counterattacks.

Our naval forces on February 2 and 3 also supported the heavy fighting of the army at the coast of northern Samland.

On the Courland front the enemy continued his attacks in the direction of Libau with newly brought up infantry and tank forces, but on the other hand, his attacks decreased south of Frauenburg. In both fighting areas the onslaught was smashed by our divisions and altogether 40 enemy tanks were destroyed here.

The Luftwaffe with strong forces attacked the Soviet groups in the rear as well as their supply lines in the center of the Eastern Front and the enemy suffered large losses in men and material. According to reports available so far, the enemy lost 26 tanks, 16 guns and over 500 vehicles in the course of these attacks while 14 Soviet planes were shot down.

In the Western Front our artillery smashed British tank forces in their attempt to pierce our main fighting line south of Roermond while at the central Roer lively enemy movements are continuing. Here the enemy artillery fire has likewise increased so that a renewed enemy large scale attack in this area is to be expected shortly.

Northeast of Monschau the enemy failed in his attacks although he was able to push our forces back into the Schleiden area and north thereof after heavy fighting east of the city of Monschau. Embittered fighting also broke out at the western fortifications further to the south with attacking American formations which made slight gains. In the Bischweiler area our troops in a counterattack threw back the advanced enemy and captured prisoners, destroying also a large number of enemy tanks.

The American attacks in the Colmar sector were warded off while north of Neubreisach as well as in the area north and northwest of Muehlhausen our divisions are engaged in violent defense fighting. In Upper Alsace, 27 enemy tanks and several armored scouting cars were destroyed yesterday.

During January our troops at the Western Front took 8,327 prisoners and captured or destroyed 1,197 tanks, 55 armored reconnoitering cars and 98 guns.

In front of Duenkirchen, our defensive fire forced the enemy tanks to withdraw while minor enemy attacks against the forefield of St. Nazaire were smashed.

The enemy supply base of Antwerp is being subjected to the incessant fire of our long range weapons.

Yesterday Berlin was subjected to an American terror raid. Damage was caused primarily in the heart of the city where living quarters and monuments were destroyed and the civilian population suffered losses. In western and southwestern Reich territory also, attacks of the Anglo-American low level raiders and of minor bomber formations again hit the civilian population almost exclusively. British terror raiders bombed a locality in the Rhenish-Westphalian area in the evening hours. Our air defense forces brought down 49 Anglo-American planes including 43 four-engined bombers.

The retaliation fire on London continues with only short intermissions.

ANTI-AXIS PROPAGANDA BLASTED BY GERMANS

Statement That Mass Evacuation Was Effected in Eastern Reich Is Refuted

Domei

BERLIN, February 4.—The enemy's assertion that the Soviet advance has practically solved one of the most difficult of the European postwar problems, namely, that concerning the Germans living in the eastern part of Germany, has been blasted as pure fabrication by German political circles. The statement, appearing in recent enemy reports, said that since all of the German population in these districts has fled westward, there will most probably not be a single German east of the Oder.

The statement also said that since the German authorities themselves had carried out a wholesale removal of the people living in the eastern provinces of Germany, in face of the Soviet offensive, it would not be necessary for the anti-Axis to effect a resettlement.

In view of future developments, and also in view of the idea expressed in them, these statements have met with great attention in Berlin political circles. The enemy assertion that all the Germans in the eastern provinces have fled is, it is stressed in Berlin, a complete falsehood as can be proved by facts, and it was made apparently in order to justify a wholesale massacre.

In spite of any statement by the enemy to the contrary, these circles declare, by far the majority of the people of these districts still remain in their homes; and if, after the Soviets leave the country, it is found that the regions have been deserted, it will only be because they will have been murdered or deported.

Naturally the number of refugees is rather large, it is pointed out in Berlin, although the actual number is by far smaller than generally expected. All of the male population are with the Volkssturm for the defense of their country, while others have remained behind either from choice or from necessity. In many cases refugees had met the advancing Red Army and had had to return to their homes in face of the Soviet offensive.

It therefore cannot be asserted, German political circles emphasize, that the districts east of the Oder have been depopulated by the people themselves. All such assertions are pure inventions, they declare.

Dealing with the principal side of this problem, German political circles stress that the enemy admitted the intention of a first-class infringement of the International Law. Civilians who, by necessity, temporarily evacuate their homes, will for political reasons not be allowed to return. In all wars so far, it is pointed out, people have been forced to flee but, as soon as the war was finished they were allowed to return to their country no matter what conditions were prevailing there. Their right to return had always remained unaffected by the issue of the war and had been independent of the right of the victor. Those who had returned had occasionally been forced to adopt another belief, another nationality or even to learn another language, but their right to return to their homes had never been questioned. Now, however, it is pointed out, this right is now going to be violated by the very people who pretend to fight for liberty. A greater infringement of the International Law, German political circles point out in conclusion, cannot be imagined.

REICH ENTRY INTO FRANCE REVIEWED BY DE GAULLE

Claims Germany Entered His Country Because Enemy Controlled Rhine

"Germany was able to invade France because the Rhine was not in the hands of France," declared General Charles de Gaulle, President of the Provisional Government of France, at a press conference held January 24 when he discussed various problems of French foreign policy. Relative to the frontier question he continued as follows:

"For that very reason, France was nearly annihilated in the present war. In order to prevent the repetition of such an experience, and not only for the sake of France but also in the interest of the security of Europe in general, France desires to station her troops on the whole course of the Rhine. Inasmuch as the Rhineland forms a whole with Westphalia, the French claim that the Rhine should be the frontier necessary for the security of Western Europe from the strategical and economic point of view must be understood also to include Westphalia. The occupation of the Rhine will continue for a long period, whether that occupation is to be placed under the exclusive control of France or under the joint control of the United Nations.

In regard to an Anglo-French agreement, General de Gaulle said that the French Government had so far not received from the British Government any proposal for the conclusion of an Anglo-French Alliance. Continuing he stated "The conclusion of such an alliance is certainly desirable, but even the non-existence of an alliance between the two countries will constitute no obstacle to the joint prosecution of a war. The Franco-Soviet Alliance Treaty has not been concluded as a model to similar treaties, but since the basic spirit of the treaty is to prevent the invasion on the part of a third power, France will conclude such treaties with her neighbors especially with Belgium is such an agreement desirable."

Italian Ties Unsettled

Concerning the Italian declaration of war on France, he states that it was a matter of great regret leaving questions between Italy and France to which a solution has yet to be found. "The Bonomi Government is anxious for the settlement of these questions," he declared "So there is a good prospect of a practical agreement being reached between Italy and France, which will no doubt be followed at some later date by the restoration of regular diplomatic relations between the two countries," was his opinion.

With regard to the position of the Italian nationals residing in Tunis, he believed there was no reason to think that any question would arise over it for the reason that Italy had already declared ended the agreement concerning its nationals in the French protectorate, only wished France to recognize this fact.

Relative to the conference on the Pacific question, held at the Virginia Hot Spring under the auspices of the Institute of Pacific Relations, he stated that it was held in an unofficial character and for this reason the government did not think fit to make clear its attitude toward the conference.

Commenting of the Syria-Lebanon question he said: "France led the others in recognizing the independence of Syria and Lebanon. In these two regions France has interests which are so vital that it will make a special effort in the future in order to insure its absolute safety. There is foreign interference with the French attempt guarantee complete independence of both Syria and Lebanon. This is the explanation of the very tardy progress made in the endeavor to bring about an agreement between France and Syria and Lebanon."

With regard to a French agreement with America and Britain he said there is no agreement under which France might get arms from America and Britain and declared: "It is in order to bring such an agreement into being that negotiations are going on at the moment between France, America and Britain. In this connection France in cooperating in the conduct of the war of the anti-Axis countries, is expending 2,000,000,000 francs a month."

ANTI-AXIS AIM TO UPSET GERMAN FIGHTING SPIRIT

Morale Remains Unshaken Despite 'Big 3' Propaganda, Declares Wilhelmstrasse

Domei

BERLIN, February 2.—Information has reached the Wilhelmstrasse that a political manifesto aimed at upsetting the morale of the German people, through dissemination of the propaganda that the current war is being waged against Germany's leaders and not her people, was discussed at the Tripartite Conference. In this connection, the spokesman of the Wilhelmstrasse recalled the disputes in the United States Congress as well as in the British Parliament when severe criticisms were raised over the plan formulated at Casablanca of unconditional surrender, describing it as one of the greatest political and tactical mistakes since it would only strengthen the German determination to fight.

Dr. Paul Schmidt, spokesman for Reich Foreign Ministry Joachim von Ribbentrop, declared that this political manifesto, if actually issued, would only prove a failure since the German people already knew too well how much faith could be attached to any statement made by Prime Minister Churchill, Lord Vansittard of the British Foreign Office, President Roosevelt and U.S. Secretary of Treasury Henry Morgenthau. Moreover, he said, they had not forgotten the bitter experience of 1918. The old "recipe" that the war was directed only against the German leaders has had its effect once, but not again, he declared.

The critical comments in the British press on Moscow's policy toward Germany were interpreted by the spokesman as an accompaniment to the present Tripartite Conference and journalistic background for the political talks among Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin. Churchill and Roosevelt, according to the spokesman, have not been informed of Stalin's military intentions, nor is it likely that they will be informed in the course of the Conference. The same is the case regarding the Soviet Union's political aspirations. To what extent Roosevelt is playing a special role at the present Conference will probably be known within a few days, he said. In the spokesman's opinion, Moscow intends to make Europe dependent on the Soviet Union in one way or another, and with this in view the Kremlin will stubbornly pursue one aim only.

Questioned about the Seydlitz Committee, the spokesman refused to make any comment on the ground that Seydlitz did not represent "a political reality" but was only an ordinary traitor. However, he added, the Soviet Union was a reality and therefore its attitude could be discussed. He said that he did not believe that Moscow's policy would take a "troublesome course as, for instance, through Paulus-Seydlitz," that nothing would be gained in Germany through deserters.

Replying to further questions, the spokesman said that none of those officers had been seen in Moscow nor had a single report from Moscow mentioned that German officers, in uniform and armed, had ever been seen in the streets or elsewhere in Moscow as, for instance, were the Vlassov officers and soldiers.

Facts Worth Noting

Thai Government

Khuang Aphaiwong—Prime Minister Also Commerce Minister

Vice Admiral Sin Kamonnawin—Defense Minister. Also Agriculture Min.

Leng Sianwong—Finance Minister

Sisena Sombatsiri—Foreign Minister

Chit Sithamma Thibet Na Songkhla—Public Health Min. Also Justice Min.

Rear Admiral Phan Nawawichit—Industry Minister. Also C-in-C of Fleet

Mon Luang Uden Sanitwong—Vice Industry Minister

Nai Sophrang Thep Hatsadin Na Ayuthaya—Vice-Communications Min.

Captain Bung Sucha Chalasai—Interior Minister

Nai Thawi Bunyaket—Education Min.

Nai Duan Bunnag—Vice-Education Min.

Major General Phin [illegible]—State Minister

Capt. Thahan Kamhiran—Same

Capt. Chalit Kulkanthon—Same

Nai Po Ra Samghan—Same

Lt. Gen. Chit Mansum Sinat Yotharak—Deputy C-in-C. Also Vice-War Min.

Gen. Plat Phahon Yothin—C-in-C of Army

Capt. Charon Rajnawa—Chief of Naval General Staff

Major General Chon Chotidilok—Chief of Army Staff

Lt. Gen. Chira Wichit Songkhram—Deputy Defense Min.

Prince Athit Thipapha—President of Council of Regency

Plod Vichen Nasonghkla—President of People's Assembly

Prince Wan Waithayakon—Member of Council of Regency

Wichit Wichit-Wathakan—Ambassador to Japan

Field Marshal Phibun Songkhram—Ex-Prime Minister

Direk Jaiyanama—Ex-Foreign Minister

Berliners Defending City

Domei

BERLIN, February 4.—Over the weekend, the most used tools in Berlin were the pickaxe and shovel as the construction of fortifications around the Reich capital is being rushed. Thousands upon thousands of men from 15 to 60 have been called up by the party for the digging of ditches, tank traps and obstacles of all kinds as well as strongpoints.

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Thailand
Alor-Star, Bangkok, [illegible], Kuala-Trengganu.
Burma
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Malai
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Sumatra
Bencoolen, Bukit-Tinggi, [illegible], Kota-Radja, [illegible], [illegible], Padang, [illegible], [illegible], Pangkal-Pinang, [illegible], Siboiga, Telok-Betong.
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TOKYO PRESS COMMENTS ON VITAL CURRENT ISSUES

Shigemitsu's Speech on Sino-Nippon Ties Highlighted; Soviet Drive Discussed

Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu's recent Diet speech on the Sino-Japanese relations was editorially featured in the leading dailies of Tokyo during the week ending January 31.

Other topics of comments were: the latest offensive of the Red Army on the Eastern Front, the proposed conference among the heads of the three major nations of the Anti-Axis group and the criminal acts of the American soldiers in European and Asiatic countries.

Referring to Foreign Minister Shigemitsu's Diet speech on January 27 that "the Greater East Asia War began with the China question and will end with the China question," the Asahi declares that the most important problem for Asia at present is that China should be completely returned to Asia, saying that Asia's stability is conditioned on that very fact. The paper pays tribute to the Foreign Minister's clarification of Japan's true policy for the solution of the China Incident. The journal points out that Japan's China policy should be directed toward making Chungking realize the folly of its opposition to Japan and show cooperation in the work of constructing a new China and a Greater East Asia common prosperity sphere. The journal also clarifies the fact that the object of Japan's new China policy includes all of China including Chungking and is not limited to China under the control of the Nanking Government only. "It is extremely timely," the paper continues, "that the object of solving the China Incident lies in the fighting power of Chungking in view of the growing intensity of the war situation and the increasing importance of the China problems. The ideological war should be carried out against Chungking side by side with our armed contest, as our Foreign Minister maintains. The fusillade of fire should be concentrated against the doctrine of racialism which forms the very motive power of Chungking's opposition and protest to Japan."

The Yomiuri also take up the same speech by the Foreign Minister. Declaring that the basic policy of Japan toward China is contained in the Joint Declaration of the East Asiatic Nations, the paper contends that our ideological war against Chungking should consist in letting the Chinese masses realize the dire consequences of the present offensives of the United States and Yenan against Chungking by taking advantage of the latter's present distressed condition. The journal argues that mere stress on the Joint Declaration would not be sufficient and urges that its spirit should be manifested through the actual life of the Chinese masses so that they will come to appreciate the Joint Declaration.

The Asahi discusses the latest developments on the Eastern Front and declares that on the outcome of the present Red offensives will depend not only the existence of Germany but the political fate of Europe itself and that the offensives also contain the germs of a great strife between the Anglo-Americans and the Soviets in the future. The paper points out the geographical and historical importance of East Prussia for the life of the Germans and that the entire district will become the great battlefield between Russia and Germany. The journal also refers to the economic importance of Upper Silesia and states that both from political and military standpoints Germany is now facing a grave crisis in her existence. In conclusion, the journal states that the present furious fighting on the Eastern Front is comparable with the Philippine battle in the War of Greater East Asia, saying that the former will prove a great test of German fighting power and a new source of power for the international position of Soviet Russia in European politics. "Both Japan and Germany who are fighting for their very existence," the paper concludes, "will overcome their present great national crisis in Europe and Asia."

The Asahi also deals with the problems of the proposed conference of the heads of the three major Anti-Axis nations and declares that what necessitates the meeting are the break down of the Teheran formula and the latest developments in the relations among these three Powers. "The consensus is that Soviet Russia has succeeded in establishing an Eastern European sphere of influence in which no Anglo-American Power will be permitted to penetrate," the journal says. "Moreover it may be said that Soviet power has been extending in the form of a people's front in all European countries after having established its hold in Poland, Czechoslovakia and France. Britain began to say that the United States has her responsibility of maintaining order in Europe, fearing that the isolationist group in the United States may get the upper hand in public opinion in that country, because Britain wishes to enlist the aid of the United States against the growing menace of Soviet advance. It is this strife between the Soviet Union and Britain that caused the break up of the Teheran formula which consisted in thoroughgoing opposition against Germany and political cooperation among the three major Anti-Axis nations," the paper continues. The journal points out that the United States has not been neglecting its preparations for establishing her own postwar position among the nations of the world and that relations among the three major nations of the Anti-Axis group which were of comparative unimportance prior to the Teheran Conference have definitely entered into the decisive stage so that it is well-nigh impossible to prevent the mutual competition among these nations. The important point is that these nations are making frenzied political endeavors in order to carry out their common war against Germany by setting their differences. The paper thus warns against undue optimism and wishful thinking regarding the future relation among the Anglo-American nations and the Soviet Union.

The Mainichi shows doubt regarding the recent report to the effect that the convocation of the proposed conference of the heads of the three Anti-Axis nations has been delayed because, the journal points out, the conference has been proposed by the Anglo-Americans instead of the Soviet Union and this report has come from an Anglo-American source. The paper, however, judges that it is their fear of a strong Soviet voice in view of their great military offensive on the Eastern Front that they are favoring a delay now in the proposed meeting.

News and Views

An Open Letter to Americans

By SAIJI HASEGAWA

John Bull is a hard bargainer. After Dunkirk when Britain stood alone against the onslaught of the Wehrmacht and the Luftwaffe, not only Prime Minister Winston Churchill and his entourage, but the press energetically struck the key note for immediate help from across the Atlantic. But now that the imminent danger seems to have passed away, the British press has started an anti-American campaign under the guidance of none other than Information Minister Brandan Bracken, Churchill's henchman.

The weekly Economist—by the way Brandan Bracken is former editor-in-chief of the periodical—blew the clarion call for the opening of the press war upon the United States in its lengthy leader. In the most violent and sustained outburst of criticism and abuse of the war years, the self-styled "Americanophil" Economist has taken off its gloves and cries: "To be told by anyone that the British people are slacking in their war effort would be insufferable enough to the people struggling through their sixth winter of blackout and blockade and bombs, of queues and rations and coldness—but when criticism comes from a nation that was practising 'cash and carry' during the Battle of Britain, whose consumption has risen through the war years, which is still without a National Service Act—then it isn't to be borne."

During my stay in London, an eminent British journalist told me that after the war was over in Europe, the first thing for the British to do was to oust American influence from the British Isles. His prophesy has now been realized in the leader of the Economist.

It was a French man, Professor Andre Sigfried, who stated some dozen years ago that "America Has Come of Age." The truth is, however, that the Yankee is, in international affairs, no match for the well-trained Briton, and this time again he has picked up Britain's chestnut from the European fire.

The Economist hits the mark splendidly when it says: "Tis complained that the British are seeking a sphere of influence, but anybody with any knowledge of facts or appreciation of probabilities can seen for himself that nothing is being or could be sought by the British half as dominating and exclusive a sphere as created by the Monroe Doctrine."

If they had any sense of proportion, the Americans should remember that the root cause of all the evils and wars lies here. The Monroe Doctrine for the Western Hemisphere and Liberation for Europe—or for that matter for Asia too—cannot hold water at all.

Obituary

Vice Admiral Manzo Nunome, veteran of the Russo-Japanese War, died of acute pneumonia at his home in Setagaya, on February 1. He was 78 years old. Funeral services were held at the Hase Temple in Takagicho, Aoyama at 10 a.m. on Monday. Vice Admiral Nunome was the chief navigating officer of the Mikasa, flagship of Fleet Admiral Heihachiro Togo, at the Battle of the Japan Sea.

Kenjiro Kikuchi, authority on the Mito Learning which upholds the Imperial Way, passed away due to cancer on Saturday morning at his Koishikawa residence. Funeral services will be held today at his residence. Mr. Kikuchi was a honorary professor of Tungwen College and later became president of the Second Boys' Higher School and also principal of the Mito Boys' Middle School. Later, he was elected a member of the House of Representatives.

6 MEASURES ARE ADOPTED AT LOWER HOUSE SESSION

Wartime Forest Resources Development Bill Submitted to Peers

The House of Representatives met in plenary session at 1 p.m. Monday. The Wartime Special Civil Law Revision Bill and five other legislative bills were brought up en bloc for discussion. After a short debate, the bills which had been already passed by the House of Peers were adopted without change. The Wartime Forest Resources Development Bill, submitted by a number of House members, was adopted and sent to the House of Peers for action.

Three house committees, the Petitions Committee and the committees studying respectively the Wartime Civil Law Revision Bill and the Wartime Forest Resources Development Bill, both of which were passed later in the day met in the morning. The committee dealing with the Industrial Equipment Corporation Revision Bill met at noon while the committee studying the bill for the improvement of the treatment of seamen met at 1 p.m. There was no plenary session of the House of Peers on Monday.

The Budget Committee, in subcommittee, met at 10 a.m. and continued the detailed examination of the general budget of the Government for the 1945-46 fiscal year and some related bills which had been passed by the House of Representatives early last week. The committee studying the bill on banks dealing in foreign currency met at the same hour.

CHINA'S 'ISLE OF CAPRI' LOCATED NEAR SHANGHAI

Tsungming Has Seen Smoke of Battle But Peace, Prosperity Now Prevail

By GALSWORTHY WONG

Though only 30-odd miles from Shanghai, Tsungming Island, located on the Yangtze Delta, is now being called China's "Isle of Capri."

After its "discovery," the island for generations has been exploited by two groups of permanent residents, Catholic missionaries and Chinese pirates. Sometime in the eighteenth century, Catholic missionaries happened to visit the island and finding the people hospitable, began to propagate their religion upon the masses. They were well received.

The influence of the missionaries can be judged by the startling fact that 'on the whole' island, not a single temple is to be found; while on the other hand, neither can a church building. So strong has been the missionary influence that homes of wealthy inhabitants have been rebuilt so that part of the home is a chapel where service can be held; also elaborate bed rooms have been prepared so that whenever the Catholic Father visits the home, he can stay over-night or as long as he desires.

While this can be said of Tsungming, the second visitor to Tsungming, the pirates, camped themselves wherever convenient and when their loot from the merchant ships was disappointing, they freely plundered the countryside and lived recklessly at the expense of the peaceful inhabitants of the island. However, between the missionaries and the pirates, there were no clashes. . . .each kept to their own business.

At the outbreak of the China Affair, the island became a refugee camp for thousands who fled from Chapei, Yangtzepoo, Pootung, Woosung and other surrounding areas of Shanghai. Rich and poor, young and old, sought refuge on Tsungming Island. At the same time, realizing the possibility of exploiting the refugees, hordes of bandits, deserters from Chungking armies and even soldiers in companies joined the pirates in taking advantage of the situation on Tsungming Island.

A reign of terror swept across the island and once well-to-do citizens of Tsungming Island escaped to Shanghai and told pitiful stories of looting, murder and rape. "They call themselves patriotic guerrillas occupying the island by order of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek" . . .the victims would explain. But there was no relief. Tsungming Island was doomed.

On March 18, 1939, the Japanese Army, determined to bring the island under the influence of the New Order, landed troops against a minor disorganized resistance. Numerous campaigns were launched against the irregular troops and guerrillas; mopping-up campaigns followed. It was a long struggle costing the Japanese Army numerous sacrifices but the disorder and chaos was eventually brought under control. Much of the success can be attributed to the hearty cooperation rendered by the desirable citizens and elements of Tsungming.

Today, Tsungming is back on its own feet. The two chief cities, Tsungming and Nanpao, are prospering while the surrounding countryside once again enjoys peace and order. The island, by nature, is an agricultural land; barren of any mountains or hills, its soil is rich and fertile. The main products of the island are cotton, vegetables, and peppermint. Shanghai, with its teeming population of over 4,000,000 people, is dependent upon Tsungming Island for its vegetables. Fishermen on Tsungming Island bring in an abundance of varied fishes for Shanghai markets.

Chinese Peace Preservation Corps help preserve the peace and order established by the Japanese military, the latter having withdrawn most of their armed forces from the island. The island population today is slightly over half a million. Under the flag of the new Chinese National Government in Nanking, China's "Isle of Capri" once again progresses in an atmosphere of peace and order.

China Digest, Shanghai

PRESS COMMENTS

Monday, February 5

COMPLEX TRIPARTITE PARLEY

ASAHI—The second tripartite parley among Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin is reported to have been opened at Cairo. Although the report has not been confirmed as yet, judging from the circumstances it is regarded as accurate. We strongly feel that the latest offensive of the Red Army, which is beginning to reveal a strength such as may cause a great change in the military situation of Europe, may have been the reason for the hasty calling of the parley.

Much has already been said regarding the agenda of the conference, but it is most essential at this time to accurately understand the chief duty and mission of the present parley or, in other words, the future of the political and strategical trend of the three countries concerned from the surrounding objective circumstances forming the background of the parley. We need not again point out that it is the intensification of the gaps among the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union which has made the three-head meeting necessary. We must not, however, forget that in order to understand the duty and mission of the parley there is another important point to be observed.

A belligerent cannot afford to be ignorant of the action and intention of his enemy. Even if the tripartite parley has been called because of the differences of interests among the three Powers, it would be a mistake to consider that this single fact alone explains the full meaning of the parley.

It is true that the various issues in Europe are daily growing more complex. So far as the war against Germany is concerned, although it is called a joint war there is clearly a serious gap between the Anglo-American army and the Soviet army. But is the present stage of fighting against Germany such that the three Powers concerned will be compelled to abandon the fundamental position of a joint war? On this point, many different interpretations and conjectures are in circulation.

Various concrete issues confronting the anti-Axis camp such as the Polish problem, the Greek situation, the question of the "liberated" countries, and also the postwar security issue, are all difficult of solution. The intention and endeavor of the three Powers in the present stage of the war, however, do not indicate a crumbling of the joint stand because of such various concrete issues. Rather it should be noted that in all probability the three Powers, apprehensive lest their joint war efforts might be weakened due to these issues, will endeavor to overcome this danger. If joint action was maintained during the most difficult period in the past, there is little ground for considering that in the present stage of the war maintenance of joint action has become impossible.

In fact, the chief issues on the agenda of the present parley are considered to be future joint tactics in fighting Germany, the division of work between the Anglo-American army and the Red army, and the adjustment of duties among the armies of the three countries advancing from the East and the West. For this purpose, it is of course necessary to solve the European issues, but it can be supposed that on this matter too endeavors will be made to find solution.

On account of America's concern in the war against Japan, there is a strong probability of a joint war against Japan by the anti-Axis Powers being discussed at the present parley. The present conference had been planned right after the second Quebec parley of last September, and there is no doubt that the Soviet position in the Anglo-American war against Japan has subsequently been given more serious consideration by the Anglo-Americans. At a time when the war against Germany has entered into the most serious stage due to the Soviet offensive, it is not impossible that the present parley should mark an important mile-stone not only in the fighting against Germany but also in the prosecution of war against Japan. Anglo-American conspiracy, action and desire are what, at this time, we should guard against most.

MANCHOUKUO INCREASING AGRICULTURAL OUTPUT

Also Increasing Industrial Production to Serve as Granary Of East Asia

To reinforce Japan's fighting strength in the decisive stage of the war for the liberation of Greater East Asia from Anglo-American domination, a determined Manchoukuo is putting forth all-out efforts to step up agricultural and industrial production. The peak of the marketing season for agricultural products is now at hand and all Manchoukuo, which is blessed with bumper crops this year, is a scene of brisk marketing, says a Hsinking dispatch to Domei.

Agriculturally, Manchoukuo has been tasked with the heavy responsibility of supplying foodstuffs required by both Japan and herself. Consequently, production quotas have been increased annually with this year's goal set at an unprecedented high figure. But with already close to 50 per cent of the goal for this year having been marketed, Manchoukuo is living up fully to her reputation as the granary of East Asia.

Already the ambitious Manchoukuo Government has finished formulating a plan to boost agricultural production still higher by raising the production quota another 10 per cent for farmers in general and 50 per cent for immigrant farmers. Furthermore, to improve agricultural production methods, the Government is taking up measures for the mobilization of agricultural experimental stations and other research agencies.

Meanwhile, agricultural land reclamation projects which have been undertaken this year are making a steady progress. The reclamation project on the second Sungari River area, which is the biggest scheme of its kind ever attempted, is progressing according to schedule with the basic project involving the raising of water for irrigation already having been completed. In northern Manchoukuo, the construction of waterways by taking advantage of the freezing season is now proceeding apace. Newly reclaimed paddy-fields will be ready for next year's planting of rice.

Increasing Mining Output

In the mining and manufacturing industries where bottlenecks in the form of labor and other factors are inevitable owing to the extraordinary expansion made during a very short period of time, remarkable progress is now being made. Whereas in the past, basic machinery for these industries had to be imported from abroad, the acceleration of domestic production of this basic machinery is now being promoted and efficient employment of existing equipment and repair work are being encouraged. Thus, everything possible is being done to remove bottlenecks in order to increase production for meeting the war requirements.

The production of coal, which abounds throughout Manchoukuo, is being carried out very satisfactory. New coal deposits in Sankiang and Tunghua provinces are being rapidly exploited and preparations are now being made to achieve a 20 per cent increase in coal production next year.

In the iron and steel industries, various measures for stepping up production are being devised constantly.

Likewise, in the light metal industry, steps are now being taken to boost the production of aluminium and magnesium in order to meet the ever-increasing demand in the construction of planes. The future outlook for this industry is indeed very promising. The production of molybdenum, graphite, tungsten and shale oil are also being boosted.

From wild grapes which are found in abundance in the country, tartaric acid lime, indispensable for radio arms, is being extracted in large quantities. Boilers which were formerly used in the brewing of Loaliang liquor are now being used in the distilling of alcohol.

The frozen timberland of northeastern Manchoukuo is the scene of a brisk lumbering industry. Railway transportation service, which is tasked with the responsibility of transporting all these lumber and agricultural products, coal and other industrial commodities, is being employed at the highest efficiency.

PRESS GUIDANCE ORGAN TO BE DISSOLVED SOON

Board of Information to Advise On Newspaper Publication After March 1

The Nippon Shimbun Kai or the Japan Newspaper Association, which was organized on February 5, 1942 for the control and guidance of newspapers, will be dissolved on March 1, having already accomplished the object for which it was primarily established, it was announced by the Board of Information Saturday. On the decision reached by the Government at the Cabinet Council held Thursday, an order for dissolution was issued to the Shimbun Kai Saturday.

Since its organization three years ago, the Nippon Shimbun Kai has cooperated with the Government in its policy for the control of newspapers, heightened the public character of newspapers, abolished profit-making tendencies, established a joint sales organ for newspapers and inaugurated the system of registering newspapermen. Thus the primary object of the Society was attained, and upon the dissolution, the guidance of newspapers will be entirely handled by the Board of Information.

Matters concerning the distribution of newspaper materials, welfare facilities, the registration of newspapermen, the delivery of newspapers and others will be handled by the Nippon Shimbun Kosha which is expected to be organized on March 1.

When the Nippon Shimbun Kai was established there was in Japan a total of 104 newspaper offices, but by amalgamation and control, urged by the Association, the number is now reduced to 55.

Japanese Consul Dies Of Wounds Inflicted By Macao Terrorists

Domei

CANTON, February 4—Japanese Consul at Macao, Yasumitsu Fukui, who was attacked by enemy terrorists on the forenoon of February 2, succumbed to his wounds at 5:40 a.m. the next day. He was shot through the left lung and in the abdomen. His condition took a turn for the worse while receiving treatment at the hospital. Yasuteru Asahina, Chancellor of the Japanese Consulate, accompanying Consul Fukui received a bullet wound through the left abdomen but he is progressing well and expected to recover in about a week.

P.I. POLICEMEN RENEW VOW

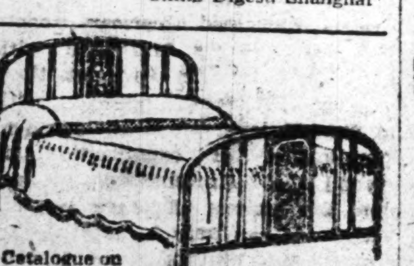
By S. SANO
Of the Military Press Corps

MINDANAO ISLAND, February 4.—Pledging their grim determination to cooperate with the Japanese Forces in performing their duties, some Filipinos of the Police Corps stationed here who have been carrying out the task of preserving peace and order or offering volunteer services, recently sent to the Philippine authorities a message written with their own blood.

The message follows: "The Philippine Republic as an indispensable member of Greater East Asia, declared war against America and Britain. Since then, the country has been battling under the assiduous leadership of President Jose P. Laurel and in cooperation with Japan for the attainment of a goal common to all the Asiatic peoples. We should like to pledge anew in the spirit of loyalty, to perform our duties under the protection of Providence and give our lives for the nation whenever necessary."

Court Rank Raised

The court rank of the late Hisahiro Naito, member of the House of Peers, was posthumously raised one rank to the Junior Grade of the Fifth Court Rank in recognition of his meritorious services, it was announced on Monday. Mr. Naito passed away on January 29.



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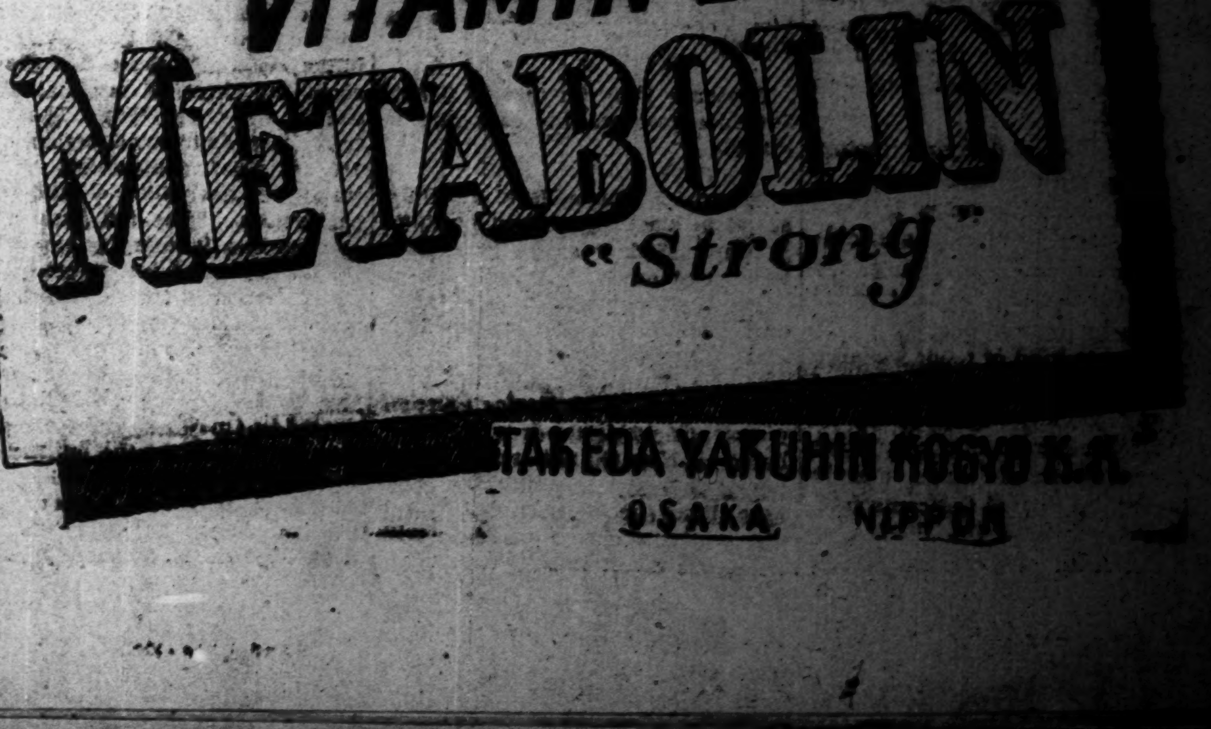

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TOKYO, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1945

One Fate, One Destiny

In his address at the Hibiya Auditorium last Saturday, Philippine Ambassador Jorge G. Vargas presented an unusually illuminating explanation of the reasons why the Philippines and Japan, as well as all the other countries of Greater East Asia, are so firmly united in their determination to resist the Anglo-American enemy at all costs. At a time like the present when the decisive combat is rapidly approaching the critical climax, this lucid clarification of the imperative logic of East Asiatic unity constitutes an impressive demonstration of the essential strength of the East Asiatic alliance. It serves to prove conclusively why the cause of Japan and her allies cannot fail whatever may be the fluctuating exigencies of the military situation at the moment.

One fate, one destiny, binds Japan and the Philippines to an indissoluble unity. Japan and the Philippines are next door neighbors. If the Republic of the Philippines should be consumed by the flames of war, the conflagration would be at the very doors of Japan. If Japan should fall, the collapse of this protecting bulwark of East Asia would mean the end of the existence of the Philippines as an independent nation. Each is thus bound to the other. An inseparable community of interests ordains the two nations to share one fate, one destiny. Such was the keynote of the Ambassador's remarks.

Likening the nations of East Asia to members of a "tonari-gumi" or neighborhood association such as has come to constitute the basic unit of community cooperative living in wartime Japanese society, Ambassador Vargas aptly described how all the neighbors are helping one another to protect their homes. Like the members of any neighborhood association who indulge in occasional innocent-meaning minor grumbling over the distribution of their rations, the nations of the East Asiatic neighborhood may at times have foolishly complained at the restrictions and privations imposed by wartime necessity. But like the lightly-meant jocular grumblings of individual neighbors, the complaints of the neighboring nations of East Asia over minor details mean nothing at all in the face of their real appreciation of the fundamental benefits which their cooperation brings. For, said the Ambassador, "we know that we are stronger and more efficient together than we could ever hope to be separately."

But Ambassador Vargas went on to point out deeper and more compelling reasons for the solidity of the unity which binds the nations of East Asia. These are reasons which indicate that the East Asiatic neighborhood of nations is designed for peace as well as for defense, for the finding and organizing of common prosperity as well as for mutual help through a temporary period of emergency, and thus they prove the enduring and permanent character of this association.

One of the underlying factors cementing the permanent unity of the East Asiatic peoples is their essential identity of race and culture. To quote the Ambassador's graphic words: "Are we not really brothers by race and blood? We eat the same kind of food; we have practically the same habits and customs; we even look alike. It is clear even from our very faces that we all should have, and in fact we all do have, the same fate, the same destiny, the destiny of all East Asia. We are neighbors, yes; but we are more than that, we are brothers; and no man can stand by with his arms folded when his brother is fighting for his life; no man can be happy and content when his brother is poor, starving, and oppressed."

Another of the basic reasons for the strength of East Asiatic unity, which the Ambassador has done well to emphasize, is the fact that the nations of this neighborhood have taken care to place their mutual relationship on a clearly defined basis of reasoned wisdom and moral justice. This is specifically embodied in the Joint Declaration of the Greater East Asiatic Nations which constitutes the fundamental charter of this neighborhood association. According to this charter, the purpose of the members is to work together in order to secure a better, a richer, a more fruitful life for each of them. To do this, they have pledged that in their common affairs they will assist one another, sharing their knowledge and their skills, sharing their resources and their cultural treasures for the common good and for the general progress and welfare. At the same time, they have pledged scrupulously to respect and trust one another, leaving each to run his own household in accordance with his own traditions and ideals. This arrangement represents an unparalleled example in world history of an ideal balance of cooperation with independence, of mutual aid on the basis of perfect reciprocity and respect for individual distinctiveness.

Still another of the basic reasons for the strength of the East Asiatic family of nations lies in the fact that its policy is not narrowly exclusive but is consonant with, and indeed positively conducive to, general world harmony. Just as the nations of East Asia have come to live in peace and harmony among themselves, so do they desire to live in peace and harmony with the rest of the world. Accordingly, the East Asiatic nations harbor no designs on Europe or America and have no desire to interfere in their affairs. If only the rest of the world would adopt a reciprocal attitude toward East Asia, there would be laid the basis of a lasting world peace. The policy of all East Asia is at one with the policy of Japan, which has been reiterated in the present Diet session by both Prime Minister Koiso and Foreign Minister Shigemitsu as the policy of nonmenace and non-aggression.

Against this natural, reasonable, and inevitable unity of East Asia, the Anglo-American enemy is hurling an unjustifiable attack. While East Asia is striving to practice harmony and peace, nonmenace and non-aggression; while East Asia refrains from attempting to interfere in the affairs of others, the Anglo-American empires are trying to force East Asia under their intervention and dictation. While they have slammed their own doors against East Asians, they are arrogantly demanding the right to extend their power to East Asia. But whatever may be their military might, whatever their physical force, they will not be able to prevail for any length of time against the inner power which is inherent in the unity of the East Asiatic peoples. Victory must prevail for the East Asiatic nations in the end, for that must be the inevitable consequence of their indissoluble unity which Ambassador Vargas has so forcefully affirmed as their one fate and their one destiny.

A Year Ago Today

February 6, 1944

The French Government announced that all young men born during the period of January 1 and May 31, 1924 will be conscripted for inclusion in the young men's labor service corps.

* * *

The Chungking Postal Bureau has taken over the Postal Office in Tibet, and appointed Feng Kei-si as its director.

* * *

Governor Feng Su-chih of Shansi Province resigned his post due to illness.

* * *

Imperial Japanese Naval Air Units surprise-raided the enemy positions at Cape Merkus as well as Cape Gloucester on New Britain Island. After heavily blasting their objectives the Sea Eagles returned to their base safely.

* * *

The Naval Wild Eagles attacked enemy airfields in the area of Finschhafen on New Guinea Island. Carrying out effective bombing, the Japanese planes succeeded in blasting two places of the enemy positions with numerous direct hits.

AMERICA'S PRESENT AND FUTURE ECONOMY

Much Concern Expressed Over Readjustment of Industries

By GUNNAR MYRDAL

(The following condensed translation of Gunnar Myrdal's book on America's Present and Future Economy is reprinted from the Twentieth Century. A brief summary of this work was recently published in this paper. After Professor Cassel, Professor Myrdal is regarded as Sweden's leading economist and a specialist on American affairs.)

IV

Now let us turn to those factors which are unfavorable to capacity production. First of all there is the fact that the changeover of America's economy from war to peace will entail at least a temporary wave of unemployment. Secondly, the wages paid on the war industry, which will then disappear to a large extent, were particularly high. Moreover, the return to normal working hours will have an unfavorable effect on the sum total of wages paid, as large premiums are paid for overtime. Thirdly, America will develop "depressed areas" such as England had after the Great War, but on a vastly increased scale. Since 1940 the population of thirty so-called "war centers" in America has risen by 10 to 60 per cent. California, Oregon, and Washington will be badly hit by the shrinking the aircraft and shipbuilding industry, and it is not improbable that every second laborer in a state like California will be out of a job. The states of the Old South will be even more directly affected by mass unemployment. Here there are many munitions factories and other plants for which there will be no use after the war.

Fourthly, the American economic and social policy is confronted with a gigantic problem raised by the necessity of shifting the labor forces as rapidly as possible to those centers most likely to require them under peace-time conditions. It is true that formerly the American laborers were very mobile, but in the future this cannot be counted upon. Many of those, for example, who moved to the West Coast with all its natural charms during the war will wish to remain there, even under unfavorable employment conditions. They will all hope for improvement and think that unemployment will not hit them personally. The fact that the anticipated 15 million war veterans who, together with their relatives, will dominate American politics after the war, will insist on high relief payments for the jobless will also not contribute toward the mobility of the laborers. The stagnation of the thirties has proved how immobile the working classes of America are today.

These problems are all the more serious as a deterioration in the relations between employers and employees must be reckoned with after the war. As we have already mentioned, the employers are demanding a reduction of wages. The employees, on the other hand, are demanding compensation in the form of increased wages after the war for their loyal attitude during the war and their acceptance of the Government's wage stop policy. If we take into account the disturbed state resulting from the process of changing over and the mass unemployment in the areas of war production, as well as a probably very complicated domestic-political situation, we are bound to reckon with a radicalization of the labor classes, with conflicts in the employment market, and with a growing acuteness of the racial problem. An epidemic of serious and perhaps bloody conflicts in the labor market would naturally have a very depressing effect on economic developments.

Problems They Speak About

All these things are rarely mentioned in America, so that discussions of the future have an atmosphere of unreality and illusoriness. Instead, other postwar questions are discussed all the more vigorously.

(1) One of these problems is the future of the stocks belonging to the Government. In order to be able to carry on the war, the armed forces must always have at their disposal immense stocks of goods of all kinds down to shoes and provisions. These stocks, which will be worth some 60 billion dollars at the end of the war, will have a depressing effect on economics.

(2) Even more difficult is the problem of the war-supply contracts in force at the end of the war. It has been calculated that there will be current contracts for goods worth 75 billion dollars at the end of the war, about ten times as much as at the end of the Great War. These contracts are distributed among about 100,000 chief contractors, who in turn have more than a million subcontractors. Thus the greater part of American industry is involved in the coming giant settlement between Government and industry. One of the main conditions for a smooth changeover in economics is that the quickest possible clarification is effected in this field. For this, legislation is needed to fix the rates of compensation to be paid to the suppliers for their canceled contracts, a legislation on which as yet no agreement has been reached. Moreover, the situation requires an extremely involved legal administration to deal with each case individually. And in most cases, this clarification can only be effected after the war, i.e., during the actual period of readjustment. The military purchasing organizations have already begun to cancel one order after another. The question as to the order in which cancelations are to take place will play an important role. Those enterprises which are first released from their contracts will have an advantage over the others in the struggle for the postwar market. The way matters are now, it is to be expected that those enterprises working at the highest cost of production will be the first to have their contracts canceled, as this would mean the greatest saving to the Treasury. Hence the least efficient manufacturers would be given an extra chance to be the first to switch over to peace-time production.

(To Be Continued)

THE PRICE OF EMPIRE

By JAPONICUS

II

The United States is becoming an empire, in fact the most extensive empire the world has ever seen. From thirteen struggling colonies on the Atlantic seaboard, the United States has spread out across the whole continent. "Manifest destiny" did not expend itself at the shores of the Pacific, for Hawaii, Samoa, and the Philippines quickly fell prey to her diplomatic and military conquests, while the euphemism of the "Open Door" cloaked the extension of an American sphere of interest over all China. Today the United States is conducting the greatest imperialistic war in history to consolidate and expand further her conquests across the Pacific. Her grip has tightened on Chungking; her tentacles are reaching into India. All Latin America is an impotent if restive protectorate, while American armies in Western Asia, Africa, and Europe provide power to the policy of intervention which the United States is exercising in all those areas. And not content with claiming the moral right to impose her will throughout the world, the United States is now proposing a world organization dominated by herself and her close associates who will use force permanently to compel all to keep the "peace" of her own fashioning. What is this but a modern and a vastly amplified version of the same sort of thing as the Roman Empire, a Pax Americana enforced by an Imperium Americana as the Pax Romano was enforced by the Imperium Romana.

Parallel with the growth of this American Empire there is taking place a decay of American democracy, of which the inauguration of the same man for a fourth term in the White House is but one symptom. In her early days America was a democracy. In the days of the New England town meeting, the common man had an effective voice in the government. In the days when the ideal of Jeffersonian democracy was a living fact and not an historic memory, the American government did confine itself inconspicuously to the minimum of necessary functions to leave a large measure of personal freedom and individual initiative to the private citizen. But today these evidences of democracy are gone.

The United States is still a republic in form and the people cast their votes in the elections. But Octavian, who succeeded to the imperial power of Julius Caesar and Mark Antony, was in form only the princeps, or "first citizen," who supposedly "handed over the republic to the people of Rome" and was hailed as the "restorer of the commonwealth and the champion of freedom." Napoleon was at first only the "First Consul" acclaimed by an overwhelming plebiscite, and to the last he succeeded in molding the French people to the belief that he was the "true son and heir of the Revolution" who had been raised by the will of the people to consolidate the democratic doctrine of liberty, equality, and fraternity. The greatest tyrants in history have been demagogues who have been able to command the acclaim of the hypnotized masses and the continuation of the same man in the American presidency for four consecutive terms cannot be passed off as a manifestation of democracy simply because it is regularized through the formal mechanism of popular elections.

For it is not so much the fact that President Roosevelt has been inducted into office for the fourth time which is significant as the fact that it accompanies the disappearance of the characteristic features which used to distinguish American democracy. The vote of the individual citizen now means little when the candidates and the issues are decided behind locked doors in a smoke-filled hotel room by a handful of political bosses. Congress is no more than a tiresome debating society when real legislation is enacted by executive fiats emanating from a maze of complicated administrative boards and agencies. The Supreme Court is nothing but a rubber stamp to give approval to the President's decrees when it is packed with the President's political appointees. The traditional American democratic system of checks and balances in which the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the government shared the authority and the responsibility and prevented each other from encroaching upon the rights of the people is no more. The executive in the person of the President now rules supreme.

Into every phase of life formerly sacred to personal liberty and private initiative, the ubiquitous hand of the President's bureaucratic machine has penetrated to regulate and to control. In Jeffersonian democracy the function of the government was to provide the minimum of police power necessary to maintain law and order so that each citizen might direct his own life without let or hindrance. In Roosevelt's America the function of the government has come to be to control and regulate how each person may earn his living, what wages he should receive, what hours he must work, what employer he must work for, what goods he must produce. The government taxes certain classes not primarily for revenue but to favor other classes; the government promises doles and pensions to provide "social security." The individual can take no action except under the aegis of the government; his life is held in thrall by the government as the government likewise assumes responsibility for his livelihood. It may, although not necessarily, bring more efficiency, more security, more equality even; but it is certainly not freedom or democracy.

Even more significant than the growing dominance of the Executive in the government of America is the disappearance of any vital faith on the part of the people in the ideals of the earlier democracy. Once the common citizen could be moved to flaming enthusiasm for personal rights, for freedom, for private enterprise, for individual initiative. Today persons who talk much about such things are dubbed reactionaries, and even with them it ends in talk. The masses of people are more concerned with jobs than rights, social security than freedom, government subsidies than private enterprise, government planning than individual initiative. This may or may not spell progress, but it does not mean democracy; it means regimentation, collectivism, state socialism under a dictatorship, however benevolent that dictatorship may appear to be.

This new trend in American life cannot be lightly dismissed as a temporary wartime phenomenon, for it was in full swing long before the present war. The New Deal marked the open abandonment of the traditional democracy and the beginning of the dictatorship of the Executive. The war merely accentuated the trend.

It may be argued that even the prewar New Deal was an emergency program and that America would return to her traditional democracy as soon as the depression was conquered. But the so-called depression was not a sudden accident but was the result of long-gathering forces which threaten to make it permanent. Mass unemployment, permanent agricultural unprofitableness, constantly growing debt, idle capital funds, and other such chronic problems, now temporarily hidden by the boom in the war industries, were problems which could not be solved by the traditional democratic government. As long as such problems continue to exist—and it is unthinkable that they will suddenly disappear within any discernible future time—the present dictatorial government must continue. It means that America has bade goodbye to democracy for a long time to come.

After all, political traditions offer little guarantee for the preservation of democracy. As Viscount James Bryce has observed: "Traditions are built up slowly but crumble quickly, just as it takes longer to form in an individual the virtue that will resist temptation than it takes to break down what had seemed a settled habit. Seldom can he who has succumbed to strong inducements be thereafter trusted to stand firm."

Once having embarked on the road away from democracy, America can hardly be expected to return to her old ways. Particularly is there little likelihood of a return to democracy since through their experience in the present war the American people have been deeply impressed with the idea that under the conditions of the present world, with its present level of technology and complication of organization so beyond the comprehension of laymen, the highest efficiency and effectiveness can only be attained by a regimented, authoritarian government under the control of a strong Executive. For the United States which has become a world empire with complex far-flung interests, the postwar period will bristle with economic and political problems which will be no less overwhelming than her problems of the wartime period. Certainly in the face of this continuing emergency, there will be no inclination for the United States to go back to the democratic ways of earlier times. Despite the lamentations of a few traditionalists, she will have to retain and strengthen the control of an authoritarian Executive over a regimented nation.

As Viscount Bryce remarks, to quote this astute observer again: "There are times when under the pressure of some grave national crisis, such as a foreign or even perhaps a civil war, a nation resigns some of its liberties into the hands of the Executive, or adopts new methods of government calculated to strengthen its position in the world. If the period of suspension of liberties be short and the attachment of the people to their old institutions exceptionally strong, no harm may be done. This proved to be the case after the American War of Secession, when constitutional government was restored uninjured. But there is always the risk that the stream may not return to its old channel. After a great war a nation is never, for better or worse, what it was before."

The present is obviously an occasion when the American Government cannot return to its old channel. The diversion from the old channel this time has been incomparably greater than at the time of the War of Secession or even of the last World War. The period of emergency has been longer, and indications are that it will persist well-nigh permanently. The old traditions are gone, and America has set her foot irretrievably on the road to dictatorship. America, as did Greece and Rome and all the other great empires of history, is paying the price of empire.

In view of all this, the American contention that she is fighting the present war for the advancement of democracy sounds ludicrous to any well-informed observer of American affairs. An honest and upright American of intelligence would surely be nauseated at the obvious propaganda devise cogitated with an intent to beguile the masses both at home and abroad to whom the shibboleth of democracy still possesses an emotional appeal. He will certainly feel pricks of conscience at the sight of America's politicians and have the effrontery to dictate as to how other nations ought to be governed, and that in the name of democracy—a system of governance which America herself is fast discarding.

(End)

AMERICAN ATTITUDE TOWARD COLORED RACES

Position of Negroes in United States Pitiful

By a Special Contributor

As the war situation becomes increasingly intensified in the east and the west, the savage streak in the American people has come more openly to the surface.

However, this cruelty in the American people is not merely a "modern" fiendish product of the merchants of death. Nor is it a new phenomenon which appeared for the first time in the present war. It is a characteristic peculiar to this national race, with a historical background and actual roots in the present American society.

During the 250 years since the colonial period, the American people have been living amid the most repulsive negro slavery system, and even after the shedding of the peoples' blood in the Civil War to abolish this institution, it still remains in the southern states. The condition in these states is reminiscent of the Middle Ages, and has resulted in the existence of an out-moded and barbaric form of society. This repugnant atmosphere, added to the American society already poisoned by the influence of money power, made it more repulsive than ever. With a root in the negro slavery system and actual historical conditions, small wonder it is that the barbaric and cruel American people think nothing of treating the colored races with brutality.

The American slavery system is not a direct off-shoot of the ancient institution, that is, as it was practiced by the ancients and primitive peoples, who enslaved peoples captured in the course of wars and battles. It is a historical growth born of the modern Western capitalism as one form of the primitive accumulative desire in the modern colonial system. In other words, it is an invention of the modern Western civilization.

Slave Trade

Englishmen, Americans and other slave traders hunted out peaceful residents on the African Continent, even women and children, as though hunting beasts. As many as eight to ten per cent of these negroes died on the way across the Atlantic. Often, two-thirds of the total on a slave ship succumbed to diseases and epidemics, while at times most of them were killed outright as result of revolts on board ship. After making a voyage on such cruel slave ships, the traders made a profit of over ten times the actual costs. These negroes, who became laborers on the plantations in this manner under conditions which had no regard whatsoever for their human rights and interests, had to slave out their existence under the whip and the chain.

With the condemnation by modern civilization of the slave trade for its utter inhumanity, the American and English slave traders turned next to the smuggling of slaves, that is, of Indian and Chinese peoples, so that in the southern states slavery became an accepted enterprise. The slave owners in America, and even the scholars and religious leaders were not ashamed to declare aloud that the negroes were a race more akin to the apes than man, that they had been rescued from their barbaric state in Africa and privileged to partake of the benefits of the American civilization as slaves. The endowing of this great blessing upon the negro peoples, they held, was the mission ordained by God to the Americans. Even such leaders of the American independence and national construction as George Washington and Thomas Jefferson were great slave owners.

The slaves often rebelled against the pitiful state into they were thrown. Their only hope of attaining their right to live as human beings lay in riots and escape. The uprising therefore was not only a cause of great loss of revenue to the owners but also the source of their greatest fear.

Therefore, in order to insure themselves against such revolts, southern society resorted to every sort of medieval cruelty. News of uprisings by slaves were severely censored, while they were forbidden even to learn to read or write. Those advocating the abolition of slavery were oppressed and often even killed, and slaves rebelling against their lot were punished in the cruelest manner, even by methods reminiscent of the Inquisition days as burning at the stake. Despite this fact, during the 80 years from the beginning of American independence to the Civil War, 120 minor and larger cases of slave uprisings have been recorded.

It may be said that one of the reasons for the desire of the south to secede from the north lay in the fact that the southern leaders were beginning to feel that it was the only way open to stem the tendency among the people of the northern non-slavery states to rescue escaping negroes. Also they thought that this would be their protection against the growing menace of slave uprisings since the John Brown insurrection.

Still Remains Today

Relics of the slavery system still remain in the southern States, ugly evidences of which may be found in out-moded laws, the chain gangs, lynchings, race riots and the Ku Klux Klan.

For instance, in 1931, nine negro youths between the ages of 12 and 19 were arrested in Scotsborough, Alabama, on charges of having attacked white girls, and despite the fact that their innocence was thoroughly established thereafter, they were given a death sentence and only after a nation-wide movement for their freedom were they finally released after six years. Also, Angelo Handon, 19 year old negro lad, was arrested in Georgia in the summer of 1932 for carrying on a demonstration against the abolition of unemployment relief, and was tried under the "Anti-Riot Laws" which had been enacted in that state in the midst of the Civil War to guard against the danger of slave uprisings. It took the United States Supreme Court five years in order to declare the out-moded laws invalid, and during that period, Handon was subjected to every sort of torture and persecution. In the same dungeon-like cell with Handon at the time were artless negro boys of 15, 16 and 17 years. Their elder brother had fought back in protest against a swindling white merchant and had been shot down by the police, but during the melee he had also fired upon the police officers, killing some of them. These youngsters, who had been at the scene at the time, were arrested as murderers and, mercilessly, executed later.

There are doubtless a number of other such cases. The cruelty and barbarism of the American people and the American soldiers originate in such evil systems.

That "Object"

The 4-year-old boy, perched on his father's knee in the crowded bus looked hard at the stout, gaudily dressed woman as she hustled in and edged herself into the only seat left.

Little boy (loudly): "Mother, its a lady!"

Mother: "Hush, my dear, we know what it is."

Little boy (looking puzzled): "But mother, you just said to dad, 'What on earth is this object coming in?'"

Impatient Linguist

An Englishman spending a holiday in Paris was endeavoring to work off some of his French in a restaurant.

"Hi, garsong," he said, after a lengthy study of the menu, "je desir consomme royal at un piece of pang at burr . . . no hang it, half a minute! Un piece of bang. . . ."

The waiter said helpfully: "I'm sorry, sir, but I don't speak French."

"Very well," said the diner, irritably. "For heaven's sake, send me someone who can."

CHINESE MIGRATION TO THE SOUTH

Emigration Began in the Middle Ages

The emigration of the Chinese overseas began as far back as the Middle Ages. They went to Burma, Thailand, Borneo, Java, the Philippines and to various other parts, spreading their influence along commercial and industrial as well as agricultural lines. In the War of Greater East Asia, they are cooperating wholeheartedly with the Japanese in the Southern area. It may be of no small interest to review their activities during recent years.

There is a touch of romance in the first arrival of the Chinese to Thailand. It is said, that during the 17th and 18th centuries, some Chinese seafarers came ashore in search of tin ore. The capital at that time was Ayuthia. Many Chinese are said to have lived there. At present, the number of Chinese is generally placed at 500,000, but there are even far more. In adapting themselves with the customs of the country, the overseas Chinese have always done their best to work together with the Thai people in every line of activity.

The population figures of Thailand are not very accurate at the present time, but the total population may be placed at about 10,000,000. Immigration was not controlled in former days and since only male immigrants came in great numbers, they invariably took Thai women as wives. The offsprings of these unions were brought up according to Thai customs and they do not speak Chinese. Their number has increased with the years. Lately, however, they have begun to immigrate with their wives and family so that marriages with Thai women have declined.

On the whole, the Thai people are an agricultural race. There are also many who live by fishing and wood cutting. Those with education generally take up government positions. It has been said that in Thailand there exist only an upper class and a lower class. The Chinese who carry on commercial interests may be classed as the middle class. They are active in the financial and industrial world to a great extent. The Chinese live in large cities and towns and in the valleys. In the central part of the country where rice production is high, the Chinese hold a strong position in the agricultural circles as well as in business and industrial fields.

Chinese in Sumatra

It was in 787 that the Chinese first crossed to the South Sea Islands. During the same year an insurrection occurred in Canton and many Chinese sought refuge in Palembang, Sumatra. At that time there were many Mohammedans and Christians in Canton. During the uprising more than 20,000 persons were massacred. Those Chinese who fled to Palembang may be called the pioneer settlers in the South Seas. For more than 500 years Palembang has been the center of trade in these regions.

With the advance of the times, Chinese gradually emigrated to French-Indo-China, Java and India. In the Ming period (1368-1644), the trade in Palembang decreased and China towns began to appear in the main cities along the eastern part of Java. An example may be seen in the outskirts of Surabaya. For a time the district prospered but with the coming of the Dutch, it gradually declined. However, the position of the Chinese near Surabaya began to be recognized with the development of the perfume trade in the Moluccas. The systematic industrialization policy of the Dutch tended to be beneficial to the Chinese residents. Before the Dutch colonization of Java, it is know that about 1440 a large number of Chinese immigrated there. In Toeban, in eastern Java, several hundred Cantonese immigrants came to live. In the early part of the 15th century, there was quite a number of immigrant settlements in Java and Sumatra. Toeban and Surabaya were strong Mohammedan political and spiritual centers and the upper class was formed by the Indians. The Chinese took the lead in economic enterprises.

The Chinese in Malai have put in an astounding amount of energy into the development of the mining industry. Previous to the outbreak of the War, the Chinese investments in the tin mining amounted to $58,627,000. There were over 800 separate interests. Second to the British, they were responsible for 27 per cent of the entire investment. The rubber plantations were also first started by the Chinese. In 1895, near Malacca, rubber was grown experimentally. After 3 years of experiments, 3,000 acres were opened for production, but due to the lack of adequate technical development, only 200 tons were produced annually.

In 1934, the Chinese in French-Indo China numbered 326,000.